

Remarks

Claims 1-20 and 22-39 were pending and stand rejected. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of previously pending claim 9 and all intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 9 and all intervening claims are cancelled. Additionally, other claims have been cancelled so that further review after final may be limited solely to the issues presented in claim 1. Applicants assert that at least claim 1 is now in condition for allowance after final as set forth more fully below. As no new subject matter has been added by the amendment to claim 1 after final, there are only previously examined issues in the current set of claims. Therefore, there can be no new issues requiring further searching and consideration such that either the finality of the current rejection to claim 1 should be withdrawn or a Notice of Allowability should be provided.

Interview summary

The undersigned participated in a telephone interview with the Examiner on March 28, 2005. During this interview, the voice-oriented call processing language of the claims was discussed in relation to the Luzeski reference. The Examiner indicated that she considered Luzeski's disclosure of the service session manager creating a session for a web client that allowed the web client to access the voicemail of the messaging platform to be adequate disclosure of voice-oriented call processing.

103 Rejections

Previously pending claims 1-6 currently stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Luzeski (US Pat 6,430,177) in view of Lim (US Pat 6,574,599). Previously pending claims 7-10 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Luzeski in view of Lim and further in view of Qui (US Pat 6,684,251). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The subject matter of claim 9 and all intervening claims has now been incorporated into claim 1. Accordingly, in addition to previous recitations of claim 1, claim 1 now additionally recites, among other things, a soft switch, the soft switch coupled to the service session management logic, wherein the service session

management logic sends a communications session instruction to the softswitch, the communications session instruction based at least in part on the service session instruction, and wherein the softswitch sends a first communication setup instruction to a service server and a second communication setup instruction to a customer data device, the first communication setup instruction and the second communication setup instruction based at least in part on the communications session instruction.

In rejecting previously pending claims 7-10, the Office Action concedes that Luzeski as modified by Lim fails to disclose a softswitch. However, the Office Action states that Qui discloses switch fabric, which the Examiner has equated to the softswitch of previously pending claims 7-10. Applicants do not concede that the switch fabric of Qui is an adequate disclosure of a softswitch for rendering currently amended claim 1 unpatentable. However, even assuming the switch fabric of Qui is adequate disclosure to cover a softswitch, additional recitations of claim 1 involving the softswitch are not disclosed by Qui such that the rejection of previously pending claim 9 fails.

In particular, previously pending claim 9 recited, and currently amended claim 1 now recites, that the softswitch sends a first communication setup instruction to a service server and a second communication setup instruction to a customer data device. At no point does Qui disclose or suggest that the switch fabric sends communication setup instructions. Certainly, Qui fails to disclose that the switch fabric sends communication setup instructions to a service server and a customer data device. In rejection claim 9, the Office Action does not even address that it is the softswitch sending those communication setup instructions and instead only states generally there is communication setup without discussing how the switch fabric is sending out communication setup instructions. Applicants contend that the switch fabric only responds to a control processor to interconnect segments and does not send communication setup instructions as does the softswitch of claim 1.

Accordingly, the combination of Luzeski, Lim, and Qui fails to disclose all of the elements of previously pending claim 9, now incorporated into currently amended claim 1. For at least these reasons, claim 1 is allowable over the cited combination of Luzeski, Lim and Qui.

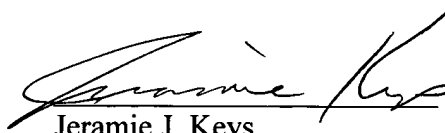
Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1, 2, and 5 is now in condition for allowance. Applicants request reconsideration after final in view of the amendments and remarks above and further request that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,

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